



SATURDAY May 23, 2015



The Prime Minister meets with

SAVANETA





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THE Prime Minister visited residents in the neighborhood of Savaneta on Thursday morning to look at the developments in the area and discuss needs of the residents. Prime Minister Eman was accompanied by Robby Wever, a well-known resident and business man of Savaneta.

the neighborhood. The Prime Minister was also accompanied by officials from Serlimar, DOW, and GKMB, the department that combats disease carrying mosquitoes.

At many of the visited houses residents asked the GKMB officials to perform tests to check if they could find the mosquitoes that cause Dengue or Chikinguya. Officials of Serlimar are in the neighborhood for the entire week, mainly for clean-up and cutting plants and trees that are obstructing traffic. "In this way we are making sure that safety in traffic in the neighborhoods improves," Eman said.



The Prime Minister and his entourage made an inventory of the needs of the residents, the most important being a way to reduce the speed of vehicles driving through the area, as well as placing asphalt on some streets and adding more illumination in the neighborhood.

The leader was very pleased to announce to the residents that in July the Government would be initiating the Lights in the Neighborhood program which will consist of adding LED lights in the area.

The leader was also able to visit the Cuts & Curves Gym, a very popular establishment in the area, where he was taken on a tour to see the modern installations, and even had the chance to try out some of the equipment. The Prime Minister was also given some tips on how to keep fit even on his busy schedule.

At the request of the Prime Minister, the Health Bus was also present to assist residents during his visit o f

The Prime Minister started these neighborhood visits, known as Accion den Bario, practically at the beginning of the first Government he led in 2009. These visits have become very popular with the people, who for the first time are experiencing a political leader living so close to them, and listening to their worries after they have entered into office, the Office of the Prime Minister informs.



Economic COLLABORATION within the Kingdom



THE representative of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations of the Netherlands based on Aruba informs on the economic collaboration taking place between the countries within the Kingdom:

More and more Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao are making an effort to become a hub in the commerce between Europe and Latin America. From the Netherlands we can see over the last couple of years intensified attempts to do more business with, among others, the emerging economies such as in Latin America.

To get an overview of the experiences and the needs of the commercial sector on the field of commercial development, the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Kingdom Relations, the office of investigation Stichting Economic Investigation, have ordered an investigation on this topic. This connects directly to the wishes expressed by of Minister of Exterior

Relations Koenders during his stay in the region at the beginning of this month, of having a better overview on the interests of the Caribbean parts of the Kingdom when it comes to economic diplomacy.

The investigation aspires to contribute to the discussion on the steps that need to be taken and also on the measures of policy directed on other developments of commerce between the Kingdom and Latin America, from the perspective of the experiences and needs of businesses on the islands and in the Netherlands. A survey was conducted over the Web among businesses in the Netherlands, Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire and St. Maarten. Recently the investigators along with representatives of Exterior Relations and Kingdom Relations and Economic Affairs visited the islands to discuss and present the results of their research.

During this visit they met up with the commercial sector, politicians and also

public officials. Aside from presenting the findings, they representatives also asked about possibilities the partners see in terms of fostering the activities and economic diligence within the Kingdom and with Latin America. The investigators also discussed the obstacles as viewed and experienced by businesses who do business with Latin America, and what facilities are needed such as airports, ports, customs, and the e-zone.

The research findings indicate that the Caribbean parts of the Kingdom can play a role in fostering commercial relationships with Latin America. Dutch companies who do business with Latin America, and who want to expand those activities, are already making use of the facilities and services offered by the Caribbean parts of the Kingdom, or

are considering doing this.

During the visit and conversations many concrete recommendations were given on various fields. The commercial sector placed an emphasis on more economic collaboration among the Leeward Islands, improving the policies in education and the labor force, and eliminating specific commercial barriers.

The research report can be found on the SEO website at www.seo.nl. In the coming week SEO will be presenting their recommendations based on their findings to the Minister of Exterior Relations and Kingdom Relations in preparation for the Kingdom Conference taking place on June 16, 2015.



Marijuana plantation DISCOVERED

ON Thursday Police in Curaçao discovered marijuana plantations at Klein Sta. Martha, behind a field. When Police arrived at the site at about 10:00 a.m., they found two different plantations in the same area.

During the investigation, the Police was able to find evidence of illegal water tapping as well. Police confiscated all the plants, as well as meters of hoses that were being used to tap water to irrigate the plantations, and some other objects of interest for the investigation.

No arrests have been made as yet. The investigation continues.



Archeological Museum celebrates International Museum Day with Kudawecha School

IN celebration of the International Museum Day the Archeological Museum organized an archeological expedition for the third graders of Kudawecha School. This was part of the prize won by Kudawecha student Isabela Quilotte, who participated in a competition by the Archeological Museum on the Flag and Anthem Day. The children enjoyed a nice trip at two archeological sites, and ending at the Museum facilities.

The assistants of archeologists Hiram Angela and Fransisco Croes explained to the children the importance of not causing any damage to the archeological site Shell Midden at Arashi, which contains valuable information on our ancestors. The tour continues to the archeological site at Ayo, where the children were able to admire the rock paintings. Here they received an explanation on the importance of this spiritual site to the Indian communities.

The expedition was ended with a fun educational game in the expo rooms of the Archeological Museum, and the children took a nice Indian necklace that they made with corks, beads and feathers back to school with them.

Under the guidance of the Museum employees the children had a great day exploring our cultural heritage. In this way the Archeological Museum educates the future generations to help conserve and promote cultural heritage, a very important aspect of the topic of International Museum Day 2015 "Museums for a Sustainable Society".





ADDED protection

with the RBC payment profile

WILLEMSTAD – RBC Royal Bank introduces an extra layer of protection for local customers with an ATM/debit card. On May 20, 2015 the bank blocked international transactions on all ATM/debit cards. RBC customers can now only use their debit card in Aruba, Curacao, Bonaire, St. Maarten and Saba. "With this new measure we can offer our customers enhanced protection. It allows us to give our customers increased peace of mind knowing that their ATM/debit card offers an even more secure way of payment," says Pierre Rafini, Country Manager of RBC Aruba. Customers can easily request change of payment settings via telephone or e-mail. Changes will be processed within 24 hours.

With the RBC debit card customers can pay and withdraw money from ATM machines with a Maestro-Logo almost anywhere in the world. Beforehand the customer was able to pay and dispense cash both locally (Aruba, Curaçao, Bonaire, St. Maarten and Saba) and internationally. Customers who live outside the specified region can change their personal settings to allow international payments and cash withdrawal. "Our customers' peace of mind is extremely important and we realize that every customer has different needs. We have customers who go abroad every week, but we also have customers who only travel occasionally. A uniformed policy would not provide the individual customer with the necessary flexibility. That's why we offer extra protection with the new payment settings. Customers can now indicate whether they wish to pay and withdraw money abroad or not," says Rafini.

Whenever customers plan on travelling abroad, RBC advises them to submit a request to change their settings through the NetBank secure mail system. If the customer does not have a NetBank profile, he or she can visit one of the RBC branches during office hours to activate their debit card for international use. Such a request can also be made via phone number +297 588 0101 or via an Account manager. RBC recommends its customers to inform the bank about their travel plans outside the "local" region in order to appropriately support arrangements for secure banking.

Please contact us at +297 588 0101 for more information or pay a visit to one of the RBC branches.



Young PAINTERS present their art

WALL painting Aruba, together with Foundation Muchila Creativo, invites all of Aruba for a visual arts exposition by artistically talented local young people. The exposition will be held on 23 and 24 of May at the Cas di Cultura, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The teens participated at a Dreams Painting workshop presented by Sandra van der Linde, and are now ready to showcase their pieces. The exposition will feature beautiful paintings of various inspirations created by these teens.

Instructor Van Der Linde hopes the community will come out to motivate and show their support to these young people, and stimulate them to keep developing their skills.





The University of Aruba presents lecture on

HUMAN Trafficking

THE University of Aruba (UA) presents "Understanding Vulnerability: Unlocking the Key to Human Trafficking in the Caribbean and Abroad" a lecture by Dr. Davina P. Durgana. This free lecture will be held on the UA premises on Wednesday, May 27 at 7:30 p.m. and presented in English.

After creating the first human trafficking risk assessment and prevalence estimation model for minors in the United States, Dr. Durgana applies the same theoretical and statistical modeling insights to the issues of human trafficking in the Caribbean in this lecture. She deconstructs vulnerability to human trafficking by appealing to the UN human security theoretical framework. She also provides context on how to best inform potential interventions for human trafficking prevention in the Caribbean and the United States. Survivor Advocates, Academics, Community Members, and others will find

this lecture to be a unique perspective into the state of human trafficking in Aruba and abroad, with an engaging open discussion on the many potential ways to combat this issue moving forward.

Speaker:

Dr. Davina P. Durgana is the Senior Technical Advisor on Human Trafficking for SeraphimGLOBAL where she directs the SeraphimGLOBAL Research Collaborative that supports the coordination of unconventional actors to produce innovative research in the anti-human trafficking field.

She is also a Report Author of the Walk Free Foundation's Global Slavery Index, and an Associate Professor at SIJ Graduate Institute in Washington, D.C. Her current work focuses on developing a domestic human trafficking statistical forecasting model and profiling minor vulnerability in the United States.

Aruba Marriott wins regional awards for 2014

THE Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino has recently been awarded with two prestigious recognitions as Sales Leader of the Year and Marketing & eCommerce Team of the Year for the Caribbean & Latin America region.

Carolina Voullieme, Director of Sales & Marketing, was recognized as the 2014 "Sales Leader of the Year" for the region. Selected from the Leadership Excellence nominees by Marriott International's Management Team, Ms. Voullieme was awarded this significant recognition for her passion and commitment to her position as leader of the Sales & Marketing Team. Ms. Voullieme has been with the Aruba Marriott since

2013 and is responsible for leading the hotel sales, marketing and communications activities, as well as maximizing revenue generation for the property.

Additionally, under the leadership of Caroline Voullieme, the team of Marketing & eCommerce supported by Stacey Banfield and Christine Leo, forming part of the Sales & Marketing, received a momentous recognition as Marketing & eCommerce Team of the Year for the CALA region. The team of Sales & Marketing was extremely happy to have received this meaningful acknowledgement, which was granted as a result of a successful year for the resort with a significant revenue growth on ArubaMarriott.com, attainment of

over 20K Facebook fans within a year and over \$10 million in PR ad value.

"I'm honored to receive these two prestigious accolades; it is a reflection of my team's commitment to excellence and Marriott's effort to develop young local talent. Aruba's young generation is full of energy and eager to grow within the hospitality industry and together with Marriott's philosophy of talent development, it is the ideal opportunity to cultivate homegrown leaders" said Ms. Voullieme.



The ATA HONORS loyal guests at the Marriott

RECENTLY the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) had the great pleasure of honoring loyal and friendly visitors at the Aruba Marriott Resort and Casino, as Distinguished Visitors and Goodwill Ambassadors.

The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism, in show of appreciation to guests who have been visiting the island consecutively for 10 and 20 years.

The honorees present were Donna Cosolito, Luanne Montalbano, Debra Hefferman,

Margaret Palermo, all residents of New York.

These guests are loyal members of the Aruba Marriott Resort and Casino and are delighted with our island's beauty, the friendliness of our people, our weather and beaches, and our exclusive restaurants and many activities that Aruba has to offer.

The certificate was presented by Darline S. De Cuba, representing the ATA, together with Christina Leo, Sales and Marketing coordinator of the Aruba Marriott Resort and Casino.



SETAR to offer ALL communication SERVICES at the Soul Beach Music Festival!



THIS weekend, Aruba will host the 15th edition of the Soul Beach Music Festival (SBMF), this year taking place in new venue, the Harbor Arena next to the former Bushiri Hotel.

SETAR is one of the sponsors that has been supporting this event from the beginning. This event has drawn tourists every year that come specifically to attend this concert series. Through the event Aruba is being promoted as a destination as well.

This year, the biggest challenge was the new location, where SETAR had to install Fiber at the harbor. SETAR together with DOW and the SBFM organization made sure to provide all of the communication services at the site.

Additionally, SETAR is offering 24/7 communication services for the entire SBFM team in various locations, such as Marriott Hotel, Renaissance Hotel and Moomba

Beach for their offices, and international radio transmissions. SETAR's highly qualified technicians are working hard to make sure everything runs smoothly.

SETAR will offer free Wi-Fi to all the event participants who want to stay connected and share their concert experience directly with their family and friends abroad. SETAR is the only company that has the infrastructure ready to offer Wi-Fi services at large events around Aruba and that can carry the data traffic for such a large crowd. The weekend promises to be a huge event with artists of international renown, such as Trey Songz, Charlie Wilson, Estelle, Doug E. Fresh, Dru Hill, D.L. Hughley, and Brandon T. Jackson.

Tickets to the Soul Beach Music Festival events are available at various spots around the island, including all SETAR Teleshops.

FBI Arrest Two ISIS Recruits Near L.A. on Terrorism Charges: Sources



(NBCNEWS) - The FBI arrested two men in Southern California, including one at Los Angeles International Airport, on suspicion of terrorism related charges, law enforcement officials told NBC News. The men are suspected of planning to travel abroad to join ISIS, sources said. They were identified Friday as Muhanad Badawi and Nader Elhuzayel, both 24 and from Anaheim, U.S. Attorney's Office spokesman Thom Mrozek told NBC Los Angeles. One man was arrested at LAX, the other in Orange County.

There was never any local public safety threat and both were apprehended unarmed, sources told NBC news.

The FBI, in connection with the joint terrorism task force, also served at least two search warrants in connection with the case.

Like a number of recent cases, the sources said the unarmed suspects fit a pattern of individuals who have been recruited by ISIS as foreign fighters, particularly through social media propaganda.

Fresh fighting erupts in east Ukraine, three Ukrainian soldiers killed

(REUTERS) - Three Ukrainian servicemen have been killed and 12 wounded in the latest clashes between government forces and Russian-backed separatists, further eroding a three-month-old ceasefire, Kiev's military said on Friday.

Military spokesman Andriy Lysenko said government forces had come under attack from separatists using large-caliber guns and mortar in several parts of the east and southeast, including near the rebel-controlled city of Donetsk.

"In the past 24 hours we have lost three Ukrainian heroes, and another 12 have been wounded," Lysenko told a briefing. There was no word on casualties among the separatists, who Kiev, NATO and Western countries say are being provided with arms and men by Russia, something Moscow denies.

Ukraine's largest steel company, Metinvest, said one worker had been killed and two wounded when its Avdiivka coke plant, which is on government-

controlled territory, was been hit by heavy shelling on Thursday.

The plant is not able to receive supplies of raw materials or ship out finished products, and damage to equipment has further hampered production, Metinvest said in a statement.

A surge in violence is putting further pressure on a fragile ceasefire brokered by Russia, Germany and France in a peace deal last February in Minsk, Belarus.

Lysenko said there had been intense fighting near Gorlivka, north of Donetsk, with the separatists using "a significant quantity" of mortars against government forces.

But the heaviest casualties on the government side had been sustained near Donetsk itself. The separatists were using "a broad range of weapons" against Kiev's forces at Shyrokyne, to the east of the strategic port city of Mariupol on the Sea of Azov, he said.

More than 6,200 people have been killed



since the conflict erupted in April 2014 after the ousting of a Moscow-backed president by street protests and the arrival in power of a leadership dedicated to moving Ukraine away from Moscow's orbit towards integration in Europe.

The conflict has led to the biggest crisis in Russia-West relations since the end of the Cold War.

In a report released on Friday, Amnesty International said there was "overwhelming evidence" that both Ukrainian forces and pro-Kiev militias and separatist groups had mistreated or

tortured prisoners - abuse it described as "frequent and widespread".

"Prisoners described being beaten until their bones broke, tortured with electric shocks, kicked, stabbed, and hung from the ceiling, deprived of sleep for days, threatened with death, denied medical care, and subjected to mock executions," the report said.

It highlighted Right Sector, a militant Ukrainian nationalist group, and various semi-autonomous separatist battalions as being especially brutal to prisoners.

Concern in Jerusalem over international decision against Israeli nuclear program

(HAARETZ) - Israeli officials worried Obama administration won't help foil creation of international committee for nuclear-free Middle East; White House says it won't 'break commitments to our Israeli partners.' Senior Israeli officials are worried that the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty Review Conference will make a decision with extremely problematic consequences for Israel's nuclear program, by adopting the Arab states' position on the terms for convening a conference on making the Middle East a nuclear weapons-free zone. The Review Conference ends on Friday in New York.

When the conference opened a month ago, Egypt submitted a proposal that would mandate holding the Mideast conference with or without Israeli agreement. Moreover, the Egyptian proposal would make Israel's nuclear program the conference's focus.

Israel, the United States and other countries objected strenuously to the Egyptian proposal. The Israeli position holds that such a conference should deal with all regional security problems, including missiles and terrorism, rather than the nuclear issue alone. Israel also demanded that any such conference be conditioned on all participating countries agreeing on the agenda.

Earlier this week, Spain, after consulting with Egypt, presented a compromise proposal that essentially rejects this



Israeli condition. The Spanish proposal states that if no consensus is reached on the agenda before December 2015, the UN secretary general will be empowered to decide whether to convene the conference, and on what terms.

Over the last few days, Jerusalem and Washington have held intensive talks in an effort to reach understandings on the issue. A senior Israeli official involved in the talks said that Thomas Countryman, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for international security and nonproliferation, has been in Israel since Tuesday talking with officials from the Foreign Ministry, the National Security Council and the Israel Atomic Energy Commission.

On Wednesday, the talks lasted until 3 A.M., and they continued all day Thursday. Talks are expected to take place all day Friday as well, until late into the night, when the NPT Review Conference closes.

So far, no agreement satisfactory to Israel has been reached. The senior Israeli official said Israel fears a "rerun" of what happened at the last NPT Review Conference, in 2010. Then, Egypt succeeded in forcing the U.S. to include a section in the concluding statement that addressed Israel's nuclear capabilities and urged it to open all of its nuclear facilities to UN inspections. The 2010 statement also called for convening a conference within two years on making the Middle East an

area free of weapons of mass destruction.

Israel was furious and accused the U.S. administration of renegeing on its prior commitments to Israel. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu then demanded "compensation" from Washington, and received it during a visit to the White House in July 2010, when U.S. President Barack Obama promised that there would be no change in American policy on Israel's nuclear program and that Washington would not seek to undermine Israel's policy of nuclear ambiguity.

The senior Israeli official said Israel fears that this time, too, Washington's desire for a concluding statement that deals with making the Middle East a WMD-free zone will lead the

Americans to make concessions to Egypt that will undermine Israel's security interests.

The U.S. administration rejected Israel's fears. Bernadette Meehan, a spokesman for the U.S. National Security Council, said the language of the concluding statement hadn't yet been finalized, and the U.S. would work to ensure that the final statement satisfies both U.S. and Israeli interests.

"Both the United States and Israel support the creation of a WMD-free zone in the Middle East," said Meehan. "We are working closely with our Israeli partners to advance our mutual interests, including preserving the NPT." "This Administration and this President do not break commitments to our Israeli partners," she said.

'White Helmets' bring civilian aid to Syria's conflict



TURKEY (CNN) - In the last five years, life expectancy has dropped by nearly 20 years in Syria. It is an astonishing figure.

And the reason is not because of deadly infectious diseases or lack of clean water, although those are problems there as well. Instead, it has to do primarily with rusty old barrels that are packed with explosives and hurtled out of helicopters onto large neighborhoods. These barrels often contain nails, wire, glass and anything else that can brutally maim and destroy a human body.

The images are awful to imagine, and even worse to see.

According to the Syrian Civil Defense, barrel bombs, as they are called, are now the greatest killer of civilians in many parts of Syria.

Every time one of these barrels strikes, it is the seismological equivalent of a 7.6 magnitude earthquake, and it happens around 50 times a day. While I spoke to James Le Mesurier in Southern Turkey last night, he received word that three more barrel bombs had fallen in just the past few hours. He also told me that when this happens, there is no one for the average citizen to call. "You can't dial 911. You can't dial the fire service. You can't call the local police department. They don't exist."

James is the architect of an organization called the White Helmets that is trying to fill that void. In the process, they hope to accomplish much more as well. These plumbers, postmen, teachers and other civilians are training and joining forces to become a medical and rescue team.

They would like to reverse the drop in life expectancy and offer some relief to the countless civilians who have become increasingly desperate, forced to leave their homes and even move into parts of the country now controlled by the Islamic State.

In the old Western movies, it was easy to tell the good guys and the bad guys apart, by the colors they wore. In Syria, a country bursting with too many men in black hats, James and his 2,600 volunteers want to offer an alternative. A glimmer of hope, of men and women in white helmets.

The story of the White Helmets mirrors the escalation of violence of the revolution. In late 2012, the Syrian regime withdrew its forces from northern and southern Syria. Whether it was in response to increasingly powerful rebel forces is not something the regime of Bashar al-Assad has ever acknowledged, but the end product was the same. The absence of government forces essentially turned these into "free-fire" zones. The al-Assad regime could now bomb and shell these areas indiscriminately with thousands of innocent civilians caught in the crossfire and no help in sight.

Over time, it was ordinary men who started to respond to the explosions, fires and attacks. Barbers, bakers, students and electricians, to name a few -- consistently showed up to help in any way they could. In many of these areas, it was the same people who kept running into each other while conducting rescues. Most had bought helmets that were white, instead of colored, simply

because they were cheaper. And, according to James, it was the local media who first asked "who are all those guys with the white helmets?" It was the birth of a humanitarian organization that three years later has saved 18,000 lives, and recently been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize.

There are now around 2,600 White Helmets, including 56 women who joined over the last several months. In some of Syria's more conservative communities, women trapped in the rubble cannot be rescued by a man no matter how dire the situation. For them, the women of the White Helmets satisfy an unmet need.

Over the last few days, I have had a chance to sit down and talk to 25 of the White Helmets to try and better understand their lives, their motivations and their future. We were in Southern Turkey, not too far from the border with Syria, where the White Helmets were going through a sophisticated training exercise. I was invited to tag along. On our first day, the men all sat in a circle with me, and just started gushing their stories. It was almost cathartic for them, maybe even therapeutic.

Every single one of them raised their hands when asked if they had personally saved a life.

Ibrahim Armanazi, age 28, worked as a barber. He saved a 17-year-old woman with a head injury after a bombing near a local bakery. Abdul Kader Suleyman, 32, is a farmer who saved a 7-month-old girl after two thermobaric missiles hit the town of Darkoush. Mohammed Ata Rashwani, 44, previously worked

as a hospital administrator. He rushed to the scene of a missile attack, and "rescued a man whose entire lower half was buried." It was only later that he added something I will never forget. Mohammed joined the White Helmets five days after his son was killed doing the very same job.

Ahmad Rahhal worked as a policeman, and at age 27 moved up the ranks quickly to detective. He told the story of two other White Helmets, who had died after being "double tapped." This is a particularly malicious act that occurs when a helicopter carries two barrel bombs. After dropping the first one, the helicopter circles in the sky waiting for the first responders to arrive. Once a big enough crowd has gathered, they drop the second bomb.

It is different level of savagery.

Ahmad survived that double tap, and was able to also rescue three young girls, who are alive and well.

Ahmad, like all the other White Helmets, is doing his part to turn around the plummeting life expectancy in Syria. And, for him, it is even more personal than that. He is getting married next week, and will be starting a family of his own. When he shared that news, the entire group of hardened White Helmets broke out into spontaneous applause, hooting and hollering.

Despite all they have seen and endured, the men and women who wear the white helmets believe Syria and its citizens can be saved. They have a palpable optimism about the future -- and, they want to share it with everyone.

Santa Barbara oil spill:

Experts tally up damage

SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA (CNN) - At its worst, the smell burns your nostrils and gives you a little nagging headache.

Stones at Refugio State Beach lay splattered with a jet black tar, like goo, which can only be crude oil.

An industrial-size trash bin of oily vegetation sits next to the beach. Bikinis and surfboards on once pristine sandy shores have been replaced with people in hazmat suits, digging in the dirt and picking up oil-laden sticks and plants.

The onshore pipeline behind this week's Santa Barbara oil spill leaked more than 100,000 gallons of crude on coastal lands and into the ocean, the oil company said Thursday. What caused the oil spill remains under investigation.

AMONG THE WORST VIOLATORS

The underground oil pipeline was carrying 1,300 barrels an hour, below its maximum capacity of 2,000 barrels an hour, said Rick McMichael of Plains All American Pipeline. Plains All American is among the worst violators listed by the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration. It surpassed all but four of more than 1,700 operators in reporting safety and maintenance infractions, the federal agency said.

The company has had 175 federal safety and maintenance violations since 2006, responsible for more than 16,000 barrels of spills that have caused more than \$23 million worth of property damage.

Plains has been committing money to safety improvements for the past seven years, said Pat Hutchins, the company's senior director of safety.

LOBSTERS KILLED, PELICANS SOAKED IN OIL

Meanwhile, crews continued to clean beaches and coastal waters, and officials reported the leak killed an undisclosed number of lobsters, kelp bass and marine invertebrates. Six oil-soaked pelicans and one young sea lion were being rehabilitated.

As of Thursday night, vessels had skimmed 9,500 gallons of oily water from the ocean, McMichael said.

The cleanup could last months, officials said. For now, currents, tides and winds make the oil plume "a moving target" as it drifts offshore, said U.S. Coast Guard Capt. Jennifer Williams.

The size of the spill, which began contaminating California's beaches Tuesday, is equivalent to the volume of water the average American residence uses in a year.



HOW IT ALL STARTED

Houston-based Plains All American Pipeline estimated that up to 105,000 gallons may have spilled from a broken pipe, based on the typical flow rate of oil and the elevation of the pipeline.

Since the pipeline is underground, it will take a few days to determine how much crude oil was spilled, said McMichael, who estimated that 21,000 gallons of crude had gone into the Pacific Ocean, with the rest spilled on land.

NOT THE FIRST TIME

This isn't the first oil spill in Santa Barbara.

A spill in January 1969 became what was, at the time, the nation's worst offshore oil disaster. Though this week's spill is smaller, it still prompted California's governor to declare a state of emergency in Santa Barbara County.

The 1969 disaster was so catastrophic that it gave birth to an environmental movement, a host of regulations against the oil and gas industry and a new commission to protect California's coast, experts said.

In all, about 3 million gallons of oil spewed from a Union Oil drilling rig 5 miles off the coast of nearby Summerland, California. The pipe blowout cracked the seafloor, and the oil plume killed thousands of seabirds and "innumerable fish," according to a 2002 paper by geographers at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

BACKLASH AND CONSEQUENCES

Subsequent U.S. oil spills were much larger, including the Exxon Valdez accident, which dumped 11 million gallons off Alaska's shores in 1989, and the Deepwater Horizon spill, which put 210 million gallons into the Gulf of Mexico in 2010.

But the 1969 Santa Barbara spill energized a movement that led to new federal and state environmental laws and helped establish the first Earth Day the next year.

FINED FOR PRIOR OIL SPILLS

Plains All American Pipeline violated federal environmental violations 10 times between 2004 and 2007, when about 273,420 gallons of crude oil were discharged into waters or shorelines in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Kansas, the Environmental Protection Agency said.

Most of the spills were caused by pipe corrosion, the EPA said.

The oil company agreed to pay a \$3.25 million civil penalty and spend \$41 million to upgrade 10,420 miles (16,770 kilometers) of crude oil pipeline operated in the United States, the EPA said in 2010.

THE THREAT

The environment remains a major concern around Refugio State Beach, which was completely desolate Thursday, as were its campgrounds, which are normally packed for Memorial Day weekend. The only sounds were the waves and the helicopter above, a buzzing reminder of the oily mess below.

Additional photo sources: ABC7 & Rappler

e after pipeline rupture



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Images from the #SantaBarbaraOilSpill clean-up: sc.org/0mHqF (via @sacbee_news)

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53 People in 9 States Sickened After Eating Raw Tuna

(NBCNEWS) - Health officials are investigating a salmonella outbreak likely linked to raw tuna that has sickened 53 people in nine states.

The California Department of Public Health said Thursday that 31 of the cases are there. Other affected states include Arizona, Illinois, Mississippi, New Mexico, South Dakota, Virginia, Washington and Wisconsin. Ten people have been hospitalized. No deaths have been reported.

The source of the outbreak is unknown, but most who fell ill reported eating sushi containing raw tuna.

Salmonella is a bacteria and the most common source of food poisoning in the U.S. It causes diarrhea, cramping and fever. Health officials say the elderly, young children, pregnant women and people with weak immune systems should not eat raw fish or raw shellfish.



Chelsea boss Jose Mourinho:

'Campaign' is not a nice word



LONDON (ESPNFC) -- Jose Mourinho suggested he may have gone too far in claiming there was a "campaign" against Chelsea this season.

The Chelsea manager lambasted referees in December and said he felt there was a campaign to influence decisions against his team.

He also blamed Sky Sports pundits when Diego Costa received a retrospective three-man ban for stamping in Chelsea's Capital One Cup semifinal success over Liverpool in January.

In February, he made an appearance on Sky Sports' "Goals on Sunday" programme in which he spoke out about the decisions that went against his side during a 1-1 draw at home to Burnley and continued his complaints over the Costa incident. Asked whether he regretted the "campaign" remark at his news conference on Friday, Mourinho said: "I'm not the kind of person to regret. What you did, you did. What happened, happened. You cannot change things. Time does not go back. "We had lots of mistakes against us, that's the reality, but that's football. Maybe 'campaign' is not a nice word. Maybe I would take that word out from my explanation and my comments, but that's the reality.

"We had very bad decisions over a big period of time -- but I also made bad decisions, no problem."

Chelsea host Sunderland on Sunday in their final game of the season, with Petr Cech potentially making his final appearance for the club.

The long-serving goalkeeper has said he does not want to spend another season as Thibaut Courtois' backup and his agent has said the 33-year-old would be keen to join Arsenal, Manchester United or Paris Saint-Germain.

Mourinho has previously said that, if Cech were to leave, he would prefer that he did not join a Premier League rival.

However, the Blues boss said on Friday: "I would like him to stay. I have no preferences in [the] case he leaves."

Bastian Schweinsteiger must decide own future - Pep Guardiola



ESPN) - Bayern Munich coach Pep Guardiola said Manchester United target Bastian Schweinsteiger is a part of his plans for next season but added: "He has to decide."

Sources have told ESPN FC that United are keen to sign Schweinsteiger this summer as Louis van Gaal looks to bolster his midfield options.

The 30-year-old, who has spent his entire career at Bayern, has just one year remaining on his contract and Guardiola said the Germany captain would have to decide his own future.

"I can't make the call for Basti," Guardiola told a news conference on Friday. "He's a Bayern player, and he is under contract.

"He's an outstanding legend at the club, but he has to decide, not Pep or [CEO] Karl-Heinz Rummenigge. He has a contract, and is part of my plans for next season."

Van Gaal, who is also interested in Bayern forward Thomas Muller, worked with Schweinsteiger during his two-year reign at Bayern.





Kyrie Irving misses Cavaliers' shootaround, questionable for Game 2

ATLANTA (ESPN) -- The Cleveland Cavaliers may be without star guard Kyrie Irving for Game 2 of the Eastern Conference finals Friday night as he continues to deal with a left knee issue.

Coach David Blatt says Irving didn't attend the morning shootaround in order to meet with the team's head physician, Dr. Richard Parker.

"It's not a matter of shutting him down, it's just a matter of, is he healthy enough to play?" Blatt said. "Does he feel healthy enough to play? That's all."

Blatt would not say how much time Irving would potentially miss if he does sit out.

"Like most other injuries it's a combination of pain management and what the physical symptoms are, that's all," Blatt said.

Irving is officially questionable as the Cavs await tests scheduled for Friday morning that will likely include an MRI. Irving was unable to finish Wednesday's Game 1 win over the Atlanta Hawks after he aggravated the tendinitis in his knee, which has been bothering him

for the past few weeks. Friday's MRI may determine Irving's status for Game 2 and beyond.

Despite treatment on an off day Thursday, Irving's knee had not improved by Friday morning and the Cavs decided to send him for more evaluation. Irving had an MRI following Game 4 of the Cavs' series against the Chicago Bulls and it revealed no structural damage. That peace of mind helped Irving go out and score 25 points in the following game.

But he has tweaked the knee in game action twice since then and hasn't been able to finish the Cavs' past two playoff games. He had 10 points and six assists in the Cavs' Game 1 victory but has largely been reduced to a decoy role over the past two series.

The team doctors believe Irving suffered the injury because he was compensating for a sprained right foot he suffered against the Boston Celtics in the first round of the playoffs last month. Earlier in the week he'd expressed optimism that the time off between series had allowed the tendinitis to calm down.

"This is obviously one of the most frustrating things I've ever dealt with," Irving said after Game 1. "We do

days and days and go out there and it's nothing like simulating a game so for me, I just have to continue to do what I've been doing and do whatever is necessary to put myself out there. I'm all about winning. That's the only thing that matters."

If Irving can't go, Matthew Dellavedova will likely start at point guard for the Cavaliers.

"Next man up," Blatt said. "Guys got to step in and pick up for him."

LeBron James would also take on an expanded role handling the ball.

"That means less touches in the paint," James said. "If one of our ball-handlers is out, I've got to handle the ball more along with (Dellavedova). It changes my approach a little bit."

Dellavedova played 25 minutes and had zero points on 0-for-6 shooting in Game 1 against Atlanta but performed admirably in Game 6 of the second round against Chicago, scoring 19 points when Irving's injuries limited him to just 12 minutes.

"I'll be ready to go," Dellavedova said. "Whatever the team needs."